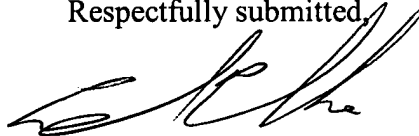


III. Remarks

Claims 1-26 were originally filed in the present application. Claims 18-25 are presently withdrawn without prejudice or disclaimer to the current restriction requirement. Accordingly, claims 1-17 and 26 are currently pending in the present application.

It is believed that all matters set forth in the Office action have been addressed. Favorable consideration and an early indication of the allowability of the elected claims are respectfully requested. Should the Examiner deem that an interview with Applicant's undersigned attorney would expedite consideration of the elected claims, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

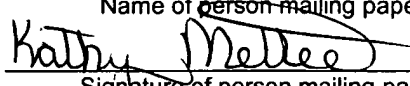
Respectfully submitted,



Andrew S. Ehmke
Registration No. 50,271

Dated: February 2, 2006

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